

Can you find these @your library™?

- Licensed librarian
- Library support staff
- Students engaged in learning
- Welcoming atmosphere
- A current book collection
- Recreational reading opportunities
- Brochures, bookmarks, and style sheets on display
- New materials on display
- Locations of materials clearly marked
- Sufficient, functional technology tools
- Space arranged for group and/or individual use
- Alternative scheduling options for the library
- Evidence of collaborative lesson planning
- Opportunities exist for student and teacher input into the library program
- Library's mission statement is visible

Key Resources

Virginia Department of Education Web pages

<http://www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/Technology/imtresources.html#librarymedia>

Guide for Developing and Evaluating School Library

Media Programs, 6th Edition (Nebraska Educational Media Association, Libraries Unlimited, Englewood, CO, 2000)

*Information Power: Building Partnerships for Learning

(American Library Association, Chicago, 1998)

Library Research Service

<http://www.lrs.org/>

Literacy Partners: A Principal's Guide To An Effective

Library Media Program For the 21st Century (Alabama Department of Education, c. 1999)

Taxonomies of the School Library Media Program,

2nd edition (David V. Loertscher, Hi Willow Publishing, San Jose, CA, 2000)

Virginia Educational Media Association Web pages

<http://www.vema.gen.va.us>

**Need
Direction?**



Ask A Librarian.

**For additional
information contact:**

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A Guide for Elementary School Principals

Academic Success @your library™

Powerful Partnerships:
Your School Librarian
and
YOU!

Come to the library
where **Information is
SOL Power**

Essential Elements for Elementary School Library Programs

For a successful program, discuss these elements with your librarian.

Learning and Teaching

*Studies prove a direct correlation between student achievement on standardized tests and a dynamic library program.**

Goal: The library program is integral to Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL) success.

Key Question:

- What opportunities do students have to access, use, and evaluate information for SOL success?

Goal: Students are actively involved in learning activities.

Key Question:

- How does the library program inspire students to read, write, and use resources effectively and enthusiastically?

Goal: Librarians and teachers are involved in lesson collaboration.

Key Question:

- When is time available for the teachers and librarians to work together to plan lessons based on the SOL?

Goal: The current collection supports curriculum needs.

Key Questions:

- What print and electronic materials support the instructional needs of the students?
- Does the library have adequate equipment to support the needs of teachers and students?
- Does the collection meet the Virginia Standards of Accreditation (SOA) criteria?

Goal: The “library ... program encourages and engages students in reading, viewing, and listening for understanding and enjoyment” (AASL, p 58)*.

Key Question:

- What activities does the library foster to promote reading and learning?

Information Access and Delivery

*Successful student-centered library programs depend on flexible access and collaboration with teachers.**

Goal: Students have access to information.

Key Questions:

- What strategies does the library program provide to help students find information in all formats?
- Are electronic resources operational?
- How physically accessible are all library resources to students and teachers?

Goal: The climate is conducive to learning.

Key Question:

- How does the library convey an inviting atmosphere that provides optimal lighting, noise level, and temperature?

Goal: There is flexible and equitable access to resources.

Key Questions:

- Which resources can be accessed from classrooms and from home?
- How consistently is the library available for SOL-based instructional use?

Goal: There is ongoing collection development and evaluation of the library program.

Key Question:

- How and when are resources continually updated to meet the SOL?

Goal: There is a commitment to intellectual freedom.

Key Question:

- What and where are the written policies for selecting resources and handling challenged materials?

Goal: Legal and ethical use of resources is demonstrated.

Key Question:

- What information does the library provide about resource citation and copyright issues?

Program Administration

*Well-managed library programs require adequate staffing, funding, and administrative support.**

Goal: The library program supports the goals and improvement of the school.

Key Question:

- How often is the librarian included in goal setting and school improvement planning?

Goal: Professional and support staff is available in the library.

Key Question:

- Does the staffing meet the Virginia Standards of Accreditation (SOA)?

Goal: There is evidence of effective management of the library.

Key Questions:

- How are SOL test data, resource guides, and local curriculum guides used to develop the library program?
- What documentation (circulation statistics, collection additions, library schedule/plan book, and number of classes served) is available to support the library program?

Goal: There is strong administrative support.

Key Question:

- How does the building administration support the library's budget, staffing, and scheduling for a quality program?

Goal: Professional development is ongoing.

Key Question:

- What opportunities does the librarian have to participate in local, state, and national professional growth activities?

Goal: Staff development is ongoing.

Key Question:

- What instruction does the library provide in the use of resources and technology using established best practices?